LOCAL NEWS

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Done for Three Years

Precipitation 'Heavier'

Rain-Making Works, BCPC Hints

B.C. Power Commission has given a guarded indication it believes its rain-making program on Vancouver Island is worthwhile.

April issue of the BCPC magazine Power asks if the program has been effective, and answers itself: "About all that can be said is that precipitation in the test area has been measurably heavier than normal during the three years the program has been in operation."

It says that if weather modification programs could increase precipitation by 10 per cent, the resulting increase in power produced by the John Hart plant would be worth more than $1,000,000.

The magazine says the commission has a regular cloud-seeding program in Central Vancouver Island with 14 generators, mostly on the western slope of the mountain ridge, and the contract for the program has another two years to run. It has been in effect three years.

It says "it is difficult to say with certainty" if the program had any effect on last summer's drought — "Cloud-seeding to be effective requires clouds, and there were few clouds in the area."

Bunnies Will Be At Park

The Easter bunnies will be in Beacon Hill Park all right at the Easter weekend, parks administrator W. H. Warren said yesterday.

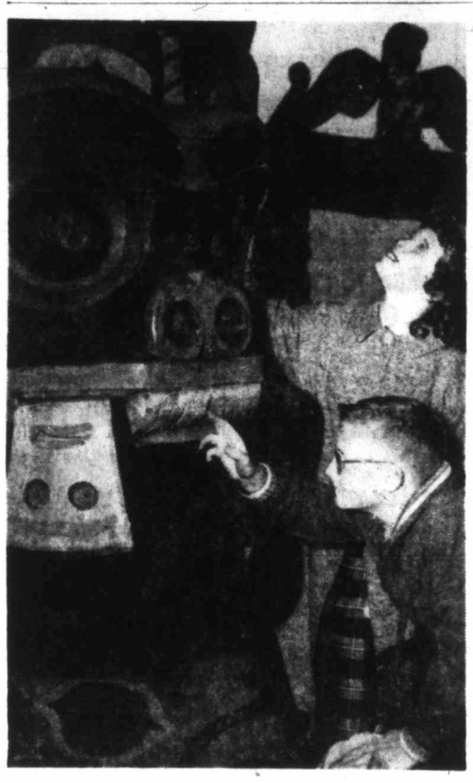
He said a doe and a number of young rabbits will be exhibited in the birdcage at the park.

And he said, another Easter feature has already been introduced: in the deer pen, there are a ewe and a couple of lambs.

Curfew Bell May Reach Gorge Park

Public works committee of the city council changed its mind yesterday and decided to recommend allowing an old city hall curfew and fire alarm bell to be used as a historic exhibit at Kinsmen Gorge Park.

The committee had previously refused a request for the bell, holding that it should be used in the city. But members said yesterday they had not understood that the Gorge Park, developed partly as a Greater Victoria centennial project, was the proposed location.



'What Big Teeth!'

Thunderbird Park totem pole catches attention of two visiting California children. Grade 6 pupils, Janyce Hinckley, 11, of Grant School, and Marty Van Zandt, 11, of Washington School, were among 42 students from Eureka City, Calif., who arrived here yesterday for a three-day visit. Today, they will attend Greater Victoria schools and Thursday they will go sightseeing.—(Colonist photo)

Around the Island

Duncan Ex-Mayor G. H. Savage Dies

DUNCAN — George Henry Savage, 71, who was mayor of Duncan from 1943 through 1946, died in King's Daughters' Hospital Sunday. Mr. Savage had been a resident of Duncan for the last 52 years. He was born in Hornsley, London, England.

In 1921 he went into the carpentry business under the firm name of Cowichan Joinery, his son, Warren, entering the business in 1946.

He was active for many years in community affairs. As well as serving the city as mayor he was also a city alderman for a number of terms as well as serving as a school trustee. He was a past-president of the Duncan Rotary Club, and a past master of the Temple Lodge, A.F. and A.M., and was also a past grand chancellor of the Grand Lodge of B.C., Knights of Pythias, and past chancellor of Maple Lodge 15, of Duncan, of which he had been a member for more than 50 years.

Surviving are his wife, Lillian; one son, Warren; one daughter, Mrs. J. D. Smith, Oak Ridges, Toronto; two brothers, Edwin and James, both in Los Angeles; two sisters, Mrs. James Duncan and Mrs. Fred Wise of Vancouver.

Funeral services will be held from the Hirst Funeral Chapel today at 2 p.m., with Rev. W. F. Burns officiating. Cremation will follow. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Canadian Cancer Fund.

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GANGES — The 1959 Fall Fair, sponsored by the Islands Farmers Institute, will be held Aug. 26 on Salt Spring Island, it was announced at an annual meeting here.

Mrs. J. R. W. Young is secretary of the fair committee now in formation.

During the institute's recent annual meeting, presentations were made to W. P. Evans, an institute director in 1917, and to W. M. Palmer, a director in 1928 and chairman of the directors from 1933 to 1937.

Elected to serve on the board of directors in 1959 were E. H. Gear, G. M. Heinekey, G. S. Humphreys, T. J. Butt and J. R. Young. A chairman has not yet been chosen.

Mrs. Peter Cartwright will continue as secretary-treasurer, and W. M. Palmer and Frank Stevens were appointed auditors.

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CAMPBELL RIVER — Annual Campbell River Recreation Association "Bits and Pieces" presentation played to more than 800 — a record crowd here yesterday.

Winner of the Trophy Shield, presented by the local newspaper, The Courier, for best skit was won for the third time in a row by Quadra Island group with "Christmas Concert."

Other 10 to 20 minute skits were presented by Campbell River and Campbellton PTA's, Women's Institute, Sharon Brown's ballet class, Campbell River Recreation's teen club, Legion ladies auxiliary and Kinsmen clubs.

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DUNCAN—Funeral services were held yesterday from Hirst funeral home, for Leander Hamilton, 91, who had been a resident of Westholme for the last 49 years. Born in Five Mile River, Hants County, Nova Scotia, he was in turn a successful farmer, miner and logger. He was one of the first to leave for the North in the Klondike Gold Rush of 1898.

His wife, Lucy, predeceased him in 1956. Surviving are one son, Herbert, in Westholme; three daughters, Mrs. A. A. Hill, Vancouver; Mrs. C. I. Wilson, Shawnigan, and Mrs. I. W. Richards, Mesachie Lake.

PORT ALBERNI — Mayor Loran Jordon has admitted defeat in his fight to maintain municipal taxes here at the 1958 rate of 34 mills.

At the beginning of the year the mayor took a strong stand against a suggestion of raising the tax rate. At Monday night's meeting, council accepted an auditors' report showing a $43,970 deficit in 1958.

"I don't see how we can pick up last year's tab, meet rising costs of wages and materials and maintain the same mill rate," the mayor stated.

He said council had budgetted for a $25,000 deficit, then had been faced with unexpected costs of $4,500 in legal fees, $3,000 for major repairs to the Plywood Road bridge, and other unforeseen expenses.

Mayor Jordon said that school costs may be higher for the city this year, that garbage collection is a heavy burden on revenue, library costs are high and police costs rising. The city's administration costs will be higher in the new municipal building, too, he said.

Council also approved recommendations of the finance committee which will raise salaries of employees not covered by the union contract.

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PORT ALBERNI — Some enquiries will be made before Port Alberni pays $100,000 requested by the school board of District 70 on account of this year's estimates.

At council meeting a motion by finance chairman Ald. Norman Odgers to pay the amount was defeated and the request was referred to committee with power to act. Ald. Odgers said the board needed the money to pay teachers' salaries by Thursday when schools close for Easter holidays, but other council members agreed when Mayor Loran Jordon suggested that the board could borrow as easily as the municipality.

City treasurer H. D. Thain will attempt to find out from the provincial government where the city stand on sharing school costs. Enquiries will also be made as to whether Alberni City and the government are up to date on their payments to the board.

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PORT ALBERNI — Council will ask the backing of the Union of B.C. Municipalities in a move to return autonomy of their own streets to municipalities.

A resolution was authorized to be presented at the annual UBCM meeting after city solicitor E. A. Dinsmore reported that it is beyond the power of the council to control pedestrian traffic.

Council had asked Mr. Dinsmore's help in a move to outlaw jaywalking. He explained that city streets are subject to the terms of the Motor Vehicle Act which allows for prosecution for jaywalking in blocks controlled by signal lights only. He pointed out that in this city it is illegal to jaywalk in the block between Angus and Argyle streets on Third Avenue, but that the council has no right to extend the restrictions.

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PORT ALBERNI — Opening of a new light industrial area is being contemplated by Port Alberni council.

Ald. Norman Odgers revealed plans for property on the west side of Tenth Avenue North in the vicinity of the curling rink.

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NANAIMO — Selection of a "Miss Nanaimo" this year will be made at a dance sponsored by the Nu Phi Mu Sorority group at the Canadian Legion, April 18.

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NANAIMO — The Lions' minstrel show which ran for four nights earlier this month realized a profit of $1,700, it was announced yesterday.

PORT ALBERNI — W. C. Strand, formerly of Falls Road, Alberni, pleaded guilty in Port Alberni police court yesterday to a charge of making false statements for the purpose of obtaining unemployment insurance benefits.

Information was given by A. D. King of the National Employment Service office, Victoria, where the accused now lives.

A fine of $25 with $5.50 costs was imposed by Magistrate W. E. MacLeod.

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SPROAT LAKE — John Monrufet was elected president of Sproat Lake Ratepayers' Association at the annual meeting held in Cleecoot school.

Other officers elected were: Al Greenhalgh, vice-president; Mrs. Armour Ford, secretary; Mrs. H. Howe, treasurer.

Easter Bunny's Helpers

Decorating hundreds of Easter eggs at a Yates Street candy shop, in readiness for the weekend holiday, are Kathleen Sims, right, and Mrs. Mildred Deans.—(Colonist photo)

Hard-Toe Boot Issue Stalls Firemen Talks

For want of a free issue of safety boots to city firemen, negotiations between Oak Bay council and its own firemen have been stalled.

Both city and Oak Bay firemen are seeking a boot allowance, but Oak Bay council's negotiating committee wants to see what city council does about the request from its men.

Meanwhile, Oak Bay council has offered its firemen an additional statutory holiday—Easter Monday—and a salary schedule for first, second, third and fourth class firemen set at $10 a month less than city rates.

The union is considering the offers.

Exam Time Draws Near At College

Spring examination time is drawing close for about 800 students at Victoria College.

The examinations will begin April 14 in some education courses, April 17 for the rest of the students, and will be over April 30.

Administration a Hitch

Master Plan Fine —But Not Quite

The Capital Region Planning Board's master plan for future physical development of Greater Victoria and Saanich Peninsula is fine except for its administration, city council public works committee decided yesterday.

The committee endorsed the plan in principle, but recommended to city council that an attempt be made to have the legislation governing its administration changed.

If two-thirds of the member-municipalities of the board adopt the plan, it will become "official" and none of the municipalities can make a zoning change in conflict with it.

"We would lose our autonomy," said Ald. Geoffrey Edgelow. "But possibly it could be worked out."

Will You Put Up A Queen Scout?

More billets are needed for Queens Scouts coming to Victoria from other B.C. communities for the Queen's Scouts' fourth annual provincial ceremony, April 1, 2 and 3.

Scout officials said yesterday 50 Victoria families had volunteered to look after visiting scouts, but that 56 more billets were urgently needed.

Families willing to act as hosts are asked to contact scout headquarters at EV 2-3915 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The hosts are being asked to pick up visiting scouts at Thunderbird Park gathering place at 5 p.m., April 1. The visitors will leave at 9 a.m., April 3.

Scout officials said overnight accommodation April 1 and 2 is required for the visitors plus supper April 1 and breakfast April 2 and 3.

Estimates Next Week

City council public works committee will start work on 1959 budget estimates next Wednesday at 9 a.m., trying to get the whole job done by evening.

$4,785 Grant to City Approved by Cabinet

A grant of $4,785 to Victoria for highway maintenance within the city was approved yesterday in a provincial order-in-council. The grant is made on the basis of $1,500 a mile.

Grants of $23,625 to Vancouver and $14,182 to New Westminster were also approved.

Water Bills

Refuse Bid For Office Council Told

Rejection of an Esquimalt council request that a sub-office for payment of water bills be provided in that municipality was recommended yesterday to city council by public works committee.

Esquimalt residents pay their water bills at city hall, or on Saturdays can pay them at a drugstore across the road from city hall.

"If we were going to do it for Esquimalt, we would have to do it all over the city," said Ald. Geoffrey Edgelow. Besides, he said, Esquimalt residents shouldn't be encouraged not to come into town.

JOSEPH MICHAELIS

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Seen In Passing

Joseph Michaelis looking at an Easter bonnet. (He is manager of the St. Vincent de Paul Society centre on Johnson Street, a job he has been handling for seven years. A former Saskatchewan wheat farmer, he was reeve of Willow Bunch, Sask., for 15 consecutive years before retiring to Victoria in 1946. He and his wife **Bertha** have a married daughter, **Anne**, living in Regina. His hobby is gardening) . . . **Maureen McCormick** talking about street name posts . . . **Howard Burke** looking at pictures of himself . . . **Dave Nightingale** explaining what sizes of film are most popular . . . **Mines Minister Ken Kiernan** having a busy time . . . **Mal Sutherland** selling a roll of black and white film and trying hard to sell a roll of color film as well . . . **Bob Macmillan** driving about town with his huge German shepherd dog, **Toffy** . . . **Ira Hill** and **Peter Brown** back at work after holidays in Mexico . . . **Bill Hughes** talking to entrants in the Miss Victoria contest.

Teen-Agers Worldly

Keeping It Fun Keeps the Young Scouters Told

Greater Victoria scouters were warned last night to "keep the fun in scouting" or they would not be able to keep the present-day "sophisticated" teenager interested in the movement.

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Leaders have to compete with "the distractions of the day," radio, television and big-city life, said Brig. William G. H. Roaf, Vancouver, the new provincial commissioner.

"Boys of today are more sophisticated than they were 15 years ago, but they can still be made better citizens through scouting and an interest in the outdoors," he said.

At the B.C. Scouts Association, Victoria District, quarterly meeting, Brig. Roaf advised leaders to "show them the skills of the outdoors and give them lots to do."

He presented certificates to six leaders who succesfully completed a district commissioners' course. They are W. H. Gibson, F. C. Nelson, G. W. Oliphant, Donald Hamer, D. F. Mason and district president R. L. V. Jermain.

BRIG. W. G. H. ROAF
. . . lots to do

Saanich Ponders Idea

Expansion Possible For Health Centre

A decision to install a $6,000 drainage and treatment sewer plant for Saanich Memorial Health Centre has started Saanish council thinking about expanding the centre, Reeve George Chatterton said last night.

The projected plant will be more than adequate to handle refuse from the hospital in its present size, he said. It could handle an increase of 16 more beds, making 46 in all.

The centre, the only one of its kind which is owned by a municipality in Greater Victoria, takes care of indigent, elderly persons afflicted with chronic illnesses.

Freedom's Voice Stronger Because of Colonist Ad

The voice of freedom should sound stronger for one resident of the newly-independent nation of Ghana in Africa thanks to a Victoria firm and an advertisement in The Daily Colonist.

Theosphilus Mansah, Jr., of Cape Coast in Ghana wrote the Victoria firm of R. O. Manson and Company after reading, he said, a company ad in the Colonist about "glasses which enable one to hear properly."

He said he had suffered from poor hearing from birth and would like details and price on the glasses.

Company spokesmen said the "hearing glasses" had been sent to the Ghana customer after an exchange of several letters.